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Work Assignment Form. (WebForms v1.0)

PERFORMANCE WORK STATEMENT

Contract: EP-C-15-022 Work Assignment No. 5-96 Period of Performance: Issuance-7/1/20 - 6/30/21

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

A. TITLE: Support for Region 8 Underground Injection Control Dewey-Burdock Permitting Actions

B. Work Assignment Contracting Officer's Representative:

Bruce Suchomel

Underground Injection Control (UIC) Section USEPA Region 8 1595 Wynkoop Street Mail Code: 8WD-SDU

Denver, CO 80202-1129 Email: suchomel.bruce@epa.gov

Phone: 303.312.6001 Fax: 303.312.7517

C. QUALITY ASSURANCE

This Work Assignment (WA) is a continuation of work initiated under previous WA 3-96, which required the Contractor to develop a quality assurance project plan specific to WA 3-96 to supplement the Contract-Level Programmatic Quality Assurance Project Plan (PQAPP), dated September 3, 2015. The Contractor developed the Supplemental Quality Assurance Project Plan (SQAPP) consistent with the EPA's QA requirements. The SQAPP was approved by the Region 8 Quality Assurance Director on December 18, 2018.

Task 1 (*specifically Subtasks 1.1 and 1.4*) completed under the previous work assignment required the use of secondary data (literature review). Subtask 4.4 under Task 4 may require literature review to provide references for the Contractor's response to more technical comments in the Response to Comment document, which was developed under a Task 4. Although originally applicable to literature review performed during previous Task 1, pages 10 through 12 of the approved SQAPP describe the standards the Contractor shall use to evaluate the quality of any technical references used and are applicable to any literature review conducted under Subtask 4.4. Tasks 3 and 4 in this work assignment involved developing a response to comments received from the two (2) public comment periods for proposed EPA regulatory actions. These tasks require quality assurance (QA) planning and documentation to ensure each comment received is included in the response-to-comments document and no comment is neglected. The QA elements for Task 3 are addressed in the SQAPP developed under WA 3-96. The project-specific quality assurance requirements must be addressed in the work plan and monthly progress reports as specified under Task 0 below.

D. BACKGROUND

The Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program is authorized under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The primary mission of the UIC Program is the regulation of injection wells for the protection of underground sources of drinking water (USDWs). The definition of USDW is found in UIC regulations at 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §144.3.

The Region 8 UIC Program has proposed three distinct but related actions at the Dewey-Burdock Site: a Class III draft permit authorizing injection of fluid into uranium ore zones for uranium recovery; an aquifer exemption for the uranium-bearing zones and a Class V deep well permit to dispose of treated ISR waste fluids generated at the Dewey-Burdock site. These actions are regulated under the UIC regulations found at 40 CFR parts 124, 144 and 146. UIC regulations specific to injection wells in South Dakota are found at 40 CFR 147 Subpart QQ. In addition to the UIC permits, the site is also regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC has issued a Radioactive Materials Handling License for the site.

This WA is a continuation of previous WAs 3-96 and 4-96, which included four (4) tasks providing contract support to the EPA Region 8 UIC Program (hereafter EPA) to proceed efficiently with permitting activities at the Dewey-Burdock Uranium Site. The list of Tasks completed is included in a reference section at the end of this work assignment. In summary, under Task 1 the Contractor delivered technical documents the EPA used in developing UIC Class III permit site conceptual model and geochemical modeling requirements. The Contractor completed Task 1 by providing all the required deliverables under WA 4-96. Tasks 2 and 3 were completed by the end of Option Period 4 and remain in the WA for reference. The WA 3-96 and 4-96 task numbers are being carried over to this WA to reflect the continuity of the work and to avoid confusion moving forward.

The Dewey-Burdock project site is located near the Black Hills in South Dakota. The Black Hills are of historic interest to many tribes. The UIC permitting actions have resulted in a lengthy, complicated tribal consultation process that began in 2013, but has not reached successful completion. The lengthy, complicated tribal consultation process has added considerable time to the UIC Dewey-Burdock permitting process. The Region 8 UIC Program is seeking contractual assistance to conduct a respectful tribal consultation process.

The Region 8 Tribal Assistance Branch maintains a contact list of tribal leaders for Region 8 tribes, but does not include Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs). The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently updated its Tribal Directory Assistance Tool (TDAT) with new information gathered from Indian tribes. TDAT is a free, web-accessible contact database that contains information about federally recognized Indian tribes and their geographic areas of current and ancestral interest at the county level. It lists names and contact information for tribal leaders and THPOs as well as links to tribal websites. Users can query the database by street address, county, state, and tribe. Information generated from TDAT can be exported in spreadsheet format for use in other programs. TDAT was designed to help users quickly identify tribes and provide appropriate tribal contact information to assist with initiating Section 106 consultation. For more information about TDAT, see the ACHP's information paper at http://www.achp.gov/tdat.html. TDAT can be accessed at https://egis.hud.gov/tdat/.

The EPA Region 8 UIC Program issued draft permits in March of 2017. As part of the administrative record for the draft UIC permits, the Region 8 UIC Program developed fact sheets for both UIC draft permits, a draft record of decision for the aquifer exemption, a draft cumulative effects analysis document, a draft environmental justice analysis document and a draft document proposing the Region 8 UIC Program's plan for complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. These

documents were also available for public review and comment.

The UIC permitting process requires the Region 8 UIC Program to conduct a public comment period per requirements under 40 CFR § 124.10 and issue a response-to-comments document under 40 CFR § 124.17. During the public comment period for the Dewey-Burdock site, the EPA received a large volume of comments on the proposed UIC actions and draft documents. In a previous Work Assignment (2-94) under this contract, Cadmus categorized the comments into 43 different topics.

Responses to many of the comments are found in the draft documents that were part of the administrative record. Under Task 3, the Contractor developed a response-to-comments document based on the comment topics in the categorized comment document deliverable generated under the previous Work Assignment and the information in the draft documents that were part of the 2017 administrative record.

The EPA initiated a second public comment period from August 26 through December 9, 2019 and conducted a public hearing on October 5, 2019. Task 4 work required the contractor to organize the comments received from the public during both the comment period and the hearing into the comment categories described under Task 3. Task 4 work also involved adding any new comment sub-topics or additional categories, if applicable, to the Response-to-Comment document developed under Task 3 of this WA. As the EPA updates the UIC permits and related documents to address comments received, the Response-to-Comments document will need to be updated accordingly to reference new or reorganized sections of the updated permits and related documents. The EPA is requesting contractor support for this work under Task 4, Subtask 4.4. In addition, under Subtask 4.4, the EPA is requesting technical support to address some of the more technical comments received. The information for the responses to these comments is not found in the 2019 administrative record documents. Development of responses to these more technical comments will require the Contractor's technical expertise and may require additional literature research to support statements in the responses.

II. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Work Assignment is to obtain contractual support for the Region 8 UIC Program (hereafter EPA) to proceed efficiently with permitting activities at the Dewey-Burdock Uranium Site by:

- Conducting literature review and technical analysis to analyze and develop criteria for a robust conceptual site model and groundwater geochemical model for all life cycles phases of the ISR process.
 - a. The geohydrologic and geochemical conceptual site model of the uranium ISR site shall include all lifecycle phases of ISR operations and conditions after groundwater restoration has been completed in each wellfield and natural groundwater flow conditions have resumed at the site and
 - b. The groundwater geochemical model shall encompass the geochemical changes that occurred during ISR operations to evaluate the potential for ISR contaminants to cross the aquifer exemption boundary into the USDW downgradient from restored ISR wellfields at the permitted site.

Development of an actual conceptual site model and groundwater geochemical model is not requested as part of this Work Assignment. Only the criteria for the successful development of these models is requested. The objective of the Work Assignment will be achieved by completing the tasks and subtasks described in the following section.

- 2. Providing assistance in adding contact information to EPA-generated tribal consultation letters that will be mailed to approximately 23 tribes on two separate occasions;
- 3. Providing assistance in contacting tribal offices to identify tribes who are interested in scheduling consultation meetings with the EPA, identify the designated tribal contacts for the Dewey-Burdock consultation process and schedule consultation meetings with interested tribes;
- 4. Developing a general framework for the response-to-comment document based on:
 - a. The comment topics in the categorized comment document deliverable generated under the previous Work Assignment and
 - b. The information available in the draft documents that were a part of the 2017 Dewey-Burdock administrative record;
- 5. Organizing comments received during the 2019 public comment period and public hearing into categories described under Task 3 or creating new comment categories, if applicable.
- 6. Updating the Response to Comments document developed under Task 3 with any new comment sub-topics within existing comment categories and the addition of any new comment categories, if applicable.
- 7. Updating the Response-to-Comments document with information available in the draft documents that were part of the 2019 Dewey-Burdock administrative record.
- 8. Updating the Response-to-Comments document with the changes in the final UIC permits and related documents.
- 9. Providing technical expertise in developing responses to the more technical comments identified by the EPA and additional literature research, if needed, to support statements in the response.

III. TASK DETAIL

The contract level sections that support this work assignment include: 2.2, 2.3, and 4.3.

The total level of effort (LOE) for the remaining work under this Work Assignment is <u>545</u> hours.

The Contractor shall perform the three tasks described below as well as the administrative tasks described under Task 0.

Task 0: Work Plan, QA Documents and Monthly Progress Reports

The LOE for Task 0 is: 24 hours

Subtask 0.1: The Contractor shall develop a work plan that describes how each task will be carried out. The work plan shall include a schedule, staffing plan, LOE, and cost estimate for each task, the Contractor's key assumptions on which staffing plan and budget are based, and qualifications of proposed staff. If a subcontractor(s) is proposed and subcontractors are outside the local metropolitan area, the Contractor shall include information on plans to manage work and contract costs. The work plan shall also address the specific quality assurance requirements, as applicable.

Subtask 0.2: This task also includes monthly progress and financial reports. The monthly progress report shall indicate, in a separate QA section, whether significant QA issues have been identified and how they are being resolved. Monthly financial reports must include a table with the invoice LOE and costs broken out by the tasks in this WA. All reports shall be completed and submitted in accordance with the current contract requirements.

Task 0 Deliverables:

- 1. Updated Work Plan,
- 2. Monthly progress and financial reports.

Task 1: Conceptual Site Model and Groundwater Geochemical Model

All tasks under Task 1 have been completed. No more deliverables are required under Task 1.

Task 2: Administrative support with tribal consultation tasks

All tasks under Task 2 have been completed. No more deliverables are required under Task 2.

Task 3: Development of the Response-to-Comments Document for the Region 8
Underground Injection Control Permitting Actions at the Dewey-Burdock Uranium
In-Situ Recovery Site based on information provided in the 2017 administrative
record for the UIC draft permits.

All tasks under Task 3 have been completed. No more deliverables are required under Task 3.

Task 4: Subtask 4.4

The **LOE** for Task 4 is: 520 hours.

The Contractor shall provide updated responses to comments based on the changes in the final UIC permits and related documents as the EPA updated these documents in response to comment received. The Contractor shall also develop responses to the more technical comments, as identified by the EPA. The information for the responses to these comments is not included in the 2019 administrative record documents. Development of responses to these more technical comments will require the Contractor's technical expertise and may require additional literature research to support statements in the responses.

Subtask 4.4 Updated responses to comments based on the changes in the final UIC permits and related documents.

Responses to the more technical comments not addressed in the administrative record documents, as identified by the EPA, including citations to references used, as needed, to support statements in the response.

IV. SCHEDULE OF DELIVERABLES:

Table 2. List of Deliverables and Due Dates

No.	DELIVERABLE	DATE DUE TO EPA			
Task 0: Wor	rk Plan and Monthly Progress Reports	I			
0.1	Updated Work plan and budget including Task 4	According to contract			
0.2	Monthly progress and financial reports	Monthly			
Task 1: Con	ceptual Site Model and Groundwater Geochemical	Model			
	Conference call/web conference to discuss progress	Completed			
1.1	Annotated bibliography for the conceptual site Completed model in searchable Adobe Acrobat format				
1.2	The criteria document for the conceptual site model in word-searchable Adobe Acrobat format from which text may be copied and pasted.	Completed.			
1.3	Background document for the conceptual site model criteria in word-searchable Adobe Acrobat format and Microsoft Word format.	Completed.			
	Final versions of deliverables 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 addressing comments from the EPA.	Completed.			
	Conference call/web conference to discuss progress	Completed			
1.4	Annotated bibliography for the groundwater geochemical model in searchable Adobe Acrobat format.	Completed.			
1.5	The criteria document for the groundwater geochemical model in word-searchable Adobe Acrobat format from which text may be copied and pasted.	Completed.			
1.6	Background document for the groundwater geochemical model criteria in word-searchable Adobe Acrobat format and Microsoft Word format	Completed.			
1.7	Acceptance criteria document for the groundwater geochemical model in word-searchable Adobe Acrobat format and Microsoft Word format	Completed.			
	Final versions of deliverables 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7 addressing comments from the EPA.	Completed.			
Task 2: Sup	port with Tribal Consultation Administrative Tasks	<u> </u>			
2.1	The final tribal contact list containing contact information for each tribal leader, the tribal environmental director and THPO for each tribe on the mailing list provided by EPA.				
2.2	An MS Word file of the tribal consultation letters ready for the EPA to print and route for signature.	Completed.			
2.3	Email pdf files of the signed consultation letters and attachments (received from the EPA) to each tribal leader, courtesy copy the tribal environmental	Completed.			

No.	DELIVERABLE	DATE DUE TO EPA		
	director and THPO and save each email as a pdf file.			
2.4	Forward all emails from tribes to the EPA, save the emails as pdf files and make the pdf files available to the EPA.	Completed.		
2.5	An ongoing list of communication with tribes including the information indicated in Subtask 2.5; make the list available to the EPA.	Completed.		
2.6	A list of tribes and designated tribal contact for each tribe interested in scheduling consultation meetings with the EPA, updated as needed; make the list available to the EPA.	Completed.		
2.7	Notification to the EPA of any questions or comments from a tribe the Contractor deems appropriate to refer to the EPA.	Completed.		
2.8	Immediate notification to the EPA when a tribe schedules a consultation meeting.	Completed.		
2.9	An MS Word file of the final consultation letters ready for the EPA to print and route for signature.	Completed.		
2.10	Email pdf files of the signed final consultation letters and attachments (received from the EPA) to each tribal leader, copy the tribal environmental director and THPO and save each email as a pdf file.	Completed.		
2.11	Follow-up calls to tribes after emailing the final consultation letter.	Completed.		
Task 3: The	Response-to-Comments Document	·		
3.1	An MS Word document containing the first draft of introductions to comment topics and responses to comments available from the 2017 draft documents with areas flagged for the EPA where the responses to some comments or comment concepts were not addressed by the information provided in the draft documents.	Completed		
3.2	Any QA documentation generated while tracking comments under the appropriate response section in the Response-to-Comments document, as applicable.	Completed		
Task 4: Orga	anize Comments Received during the 2019 Public C	omment Period		
4.1	A document containing all public comments received, organized under comment topics in a format agreed upon by the Contractor in coordination with the EPA.	Completed		
4.2	An MS Word document containing updated introductions to comment topics, as applicable, and updated responses to comments using information	Completed		

No.	DELIVERABLE	DATE DUE TO EPA
	available from the 2019 draft documents, as applicable, with areas flagged for the EPA where the responses to some comments or comment concepts were not addressed by the information provided in the draft documents.	
4.3	Any QA documentation generated while tracking comments under the appropriate response section in the Response-to-Comments document, as applicable.	Completed
4.4	Updated the responses to comments based on the changes in the final UIC permits. Responses to the more technical comments identified by the EPA and reference citations, as applicable.	To be agreed upon by EPA and the Contractor as affected responses and technical comments are identified by the EPA.

V. MISCELLANEOUS – SOFTWARE APPLICATION AND ACCESSIBILITY (SECTION 508 REHABILITATION ACT AND AMENDMENTS)

Software Application Files and Accessibility

Software Application files, if delivered to the Government, shall conform to the requirements relating to accessibility as detailed to the 1998 amendments to the Rehabilitation Act, particularly, but not limited to, § 1194.21 Software applications and operating systems and § 1194.22 Web-based intranet and internet information and applications. See: http://www.section508.gov/

Preferred text format: MS Word, 8.0 or higher (Office 2003 or higher)

Preferred presentation format: Power Point, Office 2003 or higher Preferred graphics format: Each graphic is an individual GIF file

Preferred portable format: Adobe Acrobat, version 6.0

VI. TECHNICAL DIRECTION

The CL-COR or WACOR is permitted to provide technical direction. Technical direction must be within the statement of work of the contract and includes: (1) direction to the Contractor which assists the Contractor in accomplishing the PWS, (2) comments on and approval of reports or other deliverables. Technical direction will be issued in writing or confirmed in writing within five (5) calendar days after verbal issuance.

VII. TRAVEL

The Contractor shall not anticipate any travel associated with this WA over the duration of the performance period.

VIII. MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, TRAINING EVENTS, AWARD CEREMONIES AND RECEPTIONS

All appropriate clearances and approvals required by Agency policy in support of any and all conference related activities and expenses, including support of meetings, conferences, training events, award ceremonies and receptions, including the form 5170 for all meetings costing more than \$20,000, shall be

obtained by the EPA CL-COR as needed and provided to the Contracting Officer (CO). Work under conference related activities and expenses shall not occur until this approval is obtained and provided by the EPA CL-COR.

IX. CONTRACTOR IDENTIFICATION

Contractor personnel shall always identify themselves as Contractor employees by name and organization and physically display that information through an identification badge. Contractor personnel are prohibited from acting as the Agency's official representative. The Contractor shall refer any questions relating to the interpretation of EPA policy, guidance, or regulation to the CO, CL-COR and/or WACOR.

X. PRINTING

All copying and printing shall be accomplished within the limitations of the printing clause of the contract.

XI. QUALITY ASSURANCE SURVEILLANCE PLAN

The contract QASP is applicable to this WA.

X. REFERENCE

Table 1. Comments outside the scope of the UIC program.

Category No.	Comment Category Title				
12	Concerns about hydraulic fracturing.				
16	Against uranium mining in general.				
17	Against uranium mining because of problems with nuclear power generation and nuclear weapons.				
18	Concerns about the price of uranium, future demand for uranium and future viability of nuclear energy.				
19	Concerns about effects of past uranium mining.				
20	Concerns about Azarga (e.g. integrity of investors, integrity of company itself, solvency, experience in the ISR industry, etc.).				
35	Concerns the project will not benefit Edgemont, South Dakota Counties, the State of South Dakota or the USA.				
36	Comment topic unrelated to the UIC draft permits & aquifer exemption.				
37	Any additional topics not included in the above list.				